

McCormick's Creek State Park

2009 Special Events



October 17th Bat Fest

Live Bat Presentations, Bat Box Workshop, Talk by Bat Expert, Bat Stories, Bat Crafts, Inflatable Cave Tours, and a special theatrical performance by children's singer/songwriter Musical Mark on his entertaining "Batsong" tour!

October 31st Fall-o-ween Festival

Campsite decorating contest! Haunted Trail!
Campground Trick-or-Treating! Spooky Crafts!
Live Owl Presentation!



October

McCormick's Creek State Park

Nature Center Hours: Daily thru October, 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Look for our program schedules on the web:

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2420.htm>

Our programs are free and open to the public after paying the park entrance fee. Please contact the Nature Center if you would like us to do a private program for your group- 812-829-4344.

****Healthy Parks/Healthy People:** Look for HP/HP on the schedule to get "INshape" with us, and discover what it takes to keep a state park or reservoir healthy.

Nature Center Renovation: New Nature Center exhibits are currently underway. The Nature Center display room will be closed for renovation. However, the Nature Center office, program room, and restrooms will remain open throughout the renovation so feel free to stop in!

Wolf Cave Closed for the 2009 Season.

All caves, sinkholes, tunnels and mines on DNR properties (except for Twin Caves at Spring Mill State Park) are closed until April 30, 2010 to provide protection from White-nosed Syndrome, a fungus that is killing bats in large numbers in the Northeastern U.S. and is now spreading west. Thank you for cooperating with IDNR in this effort.

Friday, October 2nd

- 2:30 PM **Slithering Snakes:** Nature Center. The mysteries of snake locomotion revealed. Watch one of our friendliest snakes slither your way!
- 7:00 PM **Night Hike:** Meet at Canyon Inn Front Steps. Discover the senses that make nocturnal animals so comfortable at night and practice using your own on this 1 hour hike.

Saturday, October 3rd

Blatchley Day: 150th birthday of Indiana’s greatest naturalist!

- 10:00 AM **Birding for Beginners Hike:** Meet at Nature Center. Never been birding before? Get out this morning for an introductory birding hike! Approx. 1 hr. Bring binoculars if you have them!
- 2:00 PM **Macroinvertebrates of McCormick’s Creek State Park:** Nature Center Sandy Belth, Assistant Naturalist of Monroe County Parks and Recreation, will lead you into the waters of the creek looking for aquatic macroinvertebrates.
- 4:00 PM **Leaf Hammering Craft:** Nature Center. Capture fall’s colors with a craft to take home!

Sunday, October 4th

- 11:00 AM **Easy Tree ID;** Nature Center. Hike the habitat trail with a naturalist. Learn easy ways to identify and remember McCormick’s most common trees.
- 2:00 PM **Fishes of McCormick’s Creek State Park:** Nature Center Join Brant Fisher, Non-game Aquatic Biologist for the Wildlife Diversity Section of the IDNR, to see some of our native fish up close. Methods for sampling and studying fish populations will be demonstrated.

Wednesday, October 7th

- 2:30 PM **Fall Tree ID Hike:** Nature Center. Learn the basics of tree identification and why the leaves turn from green to bright red and yellow in the fall.

Friday, October 9th

- 2:30 PM **Go Batty!** Nature Center. The Little Brown Bat can eat 600 mosquitoes in one hour! Learn wild bat facts and take home your own bat buddy.

Saturday, October 10th

- 9:30 AM **For Goodness Snakes!** Nature Center. Discover how snakes benefit the ecosystem—and us!
- 2:00 PM **Spice of Life!** Nature Center. Sample spicebush tea, and learn more about wild edible plants.

Sunday, October 11th

- 2:00 PM **Shell and Tell:** Nature Center. Turtles have remained unchanged for 250 million years. Get a chance to meet some of McCormick’s turtles today!

Saturday, October 17th

Bat Fest

*Activities at Nature Center


- 11:00 AM **Bats of Indiana Presentation** by Dr. J. Whitaker, Jr. *
- 1:00 PM **Bat Box Workshop:** Cost \$15 – supply limited, pre-registration encouraged! Redbud Shelter.
- 2:00 PM **Live Bat Presentation** by Bat World Hoosier Hills*
- 3:00 PM **Bat Stories** by Owen County Library*
- 4:00 PM **Live Bat Presentation** by Bat World South Indy*
- 4 - 6:00 PM **Inflatable Cave Tours***
- 7:00 PM **Special Performance by Musical Mark** on his “Batsong Tour” at the Park Amphitheater .

Sunday, October 18th

- 2:00 PM **Hike to Wolf Cave:** Meet at the Nature Center. Sinkholes, caves, and troglobites...Oh My! Join a naturalist on this 2.5 hr. hike through the Wolf Cave Nature Preserve.
- ***Due to DNR policy, we will not be able to go through Wolf Cave.

Wednesday, October 21st
2:30 PM **Fall Tree ID Hike:** Nature Center. Learn the basics of tree identification.

Friday, October 23rd
6:30 PM **Night Hike:** Meet at Canyon Inn Front Steps. Discover the senses that make nocturnal animals so comfortable at night and practice using your own on this 1 hour hike.

Saturday, October 24th
11:30 AM **Snakes of McCormick’s Creek State Park-** Nature Center. The snakes are preparing for the winter! Say farewell to “snake season” by getting up close to a common snake in the park.

2:30 PM **Fall Colors Craft:** Nature Center. Capture fall’s colors in a craft to take home!

Sunday, October 25th
2:30 PM **Snappers and Sliders:** Nature Center. Meet some of the aquatic turtles residing at McCormick’s Creek!



Friends of McCormick's Creek State Park

Fall-o-ween Festival

October 30th - November 1st

Visit McCormick's Creek State Park for a traditional Halloween full of family fun!

Friday, October 30th
7:00 pm **Campfire Stories:** Gather around the fire for myths and legends of the season. Redbud Shelter

Saturday, October 31st
10:30 am **Skeleton Craft Workshop: \$5/craft** Make a skeleton friend from recycled water jugs to decorate your camp site. Everyone welcome while supplies last! Nature Center
1:30 pm **Haunting Hoot Owls:** LIVE owl program presented by WildCare, Inc., a local wildlife rehabilitation center. Nature Center
2:00 pm **Spooky Spiders Craft:** Make an arachnid to follow you home!
 ***Great for younger campers. Nature Center*
4-6:00 pm **Trick-or-Treating in the Campground**
4:00 pm **Campground Decorating Contest Judging Begins!**

Pioneer Haunts of the Past - Haunted Trail

Starting outside the Nature Center! Baked items for sale inside.

6-7:00 pm Rated “G” Trail- For the littlest ones in your group...
 (4 feet and under only!); must have parental supervision.

8-9:30 pm Haunted Trail. Everyone welcome!
 ***Accepting donations for the Friends of McCormick’s Creek, Inc.*



Sunday, November 1st
2:00pm **Peden Farmstead Hike: Meet at Nature Center** - Visit the foundations of a past family of McCormick’s Creek State Park.